

Ellen Wheatley, Acting Director of the Office of Child Care

Cc: Lisa Blackmon, Region VI Program Specialist

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation planned use of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA) Funds is as follows:

Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)

- Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide direct childcare services, including childcare subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus? If yes, describe.
 1. Pay for child care assistance for Over Income Native American Families that will include grandparents, Foster Care Families and CV-19 Essential Employees with a Zero Family Share Co-pay.
 2. Pay Full Time Child Care Assistance for all Native American Families on Assistance that are employed 40 hours per week with current income verification of full-time employment.
 3. Provide the families with age-appropriate educational STEM Kits.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices

- Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide resources, supplies, and/or technical assistance to childcare providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)? If yes, describe.
 1. Provide Portable Air Filtration machines for center and home child care providers for each classroom. Also provide replacement filters for each filtration unit.
 2. Supply Care Packages quarterly to families and centers and homes child care providers.

Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the childcare sector to help childcare providers (program facilities and workforce)

pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency? If yes, describe.

1. Reimburse Virtual Learning Staff or Support that were hired for tutoring at the child care provider centers and homes from March 13, 2020 to 90 Days after the Chief lifts the State of Emergency.
2. Reimburse the child care providers for the CV-19 “Deep Cleaning” from March 13, 2020 to 90 Days after the Chief lifts the State of Emergency.
3. Pay an additional \$5 per day per child per provider each month.
4. Provider Grants. The Grant amount will be based on the STARS Level of the child care provider and the number of enrolled children.

Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- As required in CRRSA, how does the lead agency plan to use a portion of funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible childcare providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency?
 1. Pay inactive or closed providers there were on our program from March 13, 2019 to March 13, 2020.
 2. Additional guidance is needed to finalize plans.

Other

- Does the lead agency plan to use a portion of CRRSA childcare funds for any other activities or assistance not described above? If yes, describe.
 1. Construction of New Facility.
 2. Additional guidance is needed to finalize plans.

CCDF lead agencies that have not yet determined or finalized how they plan to spend all or a portion of their CRRSA funds prior to February 25 must indicate that they have not yet decided on how they plan to use their CRRSA allocations, submit any tentative or partial plans, and provide the status and timeline for finalizing those plans. Lead agencies should also note if additional guidance is needed to finalize plans.